

discount to Americans whose household income is at or below twice the Federal poverty level or those enrolled in SNAP, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, or a number of other programs, making them eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Now, around 4 in 10 households qualify for this new discount. That is nearly 40 percent of American households.

Just this week, President Biden announced a new partnership with 20 leading internet providers to offer \$30 plans. Combined with the internet discount, these offerings will make internet effectively free for millions of Americans. This is the infrastructure law in action.

WISHING VELETER MAZYCK A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I also rise today to wish my chief of staff, Veleter Mazyck, a very happy birthday. I pray that it is filled with all of the people and things she loves most and that it may be as amazing as she is. We wish her many, many more.

□ 1115

RAMIFICATIONS OF AMERICA'S ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, it is a fairly common phrase amongst truckers and other people that use things that if you have got it, a truck brought it. That is really very, very true in all of our lives because it underlines really the importance of diesel fuel to everybody and everything that we use.

For example, a farmer doesn't get the seed, the fertilizer, the inputs unless a truck has brought that to their farm; they are bringing the fuel for the tractors, they are bringing the seed, they are bringing the fertilizer.

Then when the farmer is done growing that, the truck hauls it away to the processing center. Then the processing center mills that rice, mills that wheat, turns that product into something that is then trucked to the store shelves, where you go get it.

This ripples through all aspects of the things that we use, things that are produced in this country: By a miner, by a timber faller, what have you. There is a supply chain and an energy chain that runs all the way through. It is essential that we understand that at this time when the Biden administration is making it more and more difficult, nearly impossible to produce new petroleum products in this country.

Instead, we are hell-bent on this direction of saying we are going to electrify everything. Okay. That sounds nice on its surface, but what is the real cost? What is the real effect?

Electrifying all vehicles by X year, that is the goal. They are trying to push that in California. Well, in my

home State of California, for example, we can hardly keep the lights on as it is.

At the same time, they are trying to tear out dams, like up on the Klamath River, that produce hydroelectric power, which is CO₂-free, since everybody is into that. They want to remove that. They are also scheduled to take out the nuclear power plant down near San Luis Obispo, which produces by itself 10 percent of the electricity that Californians use. One power plant, 10 percent. They want to just take that offline and make up 10 percent somehow by eliminating those two nuclear reactors.

Now, thankfully, there are folks starting to look at that a little bit differently as the crisis becomes more and more obvious to more people in my home State of California, but energy across the country as well. My understanding is our Governor has finally woken up to the idea that maybe we need to keep Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

And now the Energy Secretary in the Biden administration has looked at that a little bit, too. Maybe a little common sense will come around on shutting down that plant, and maybe we can apply that to hydroelectric plants since they seem to want to tear every dam out, whether it is in northern California or up in the State of Washington, at a time when electricity is becoming a bigger crunch in my home State.

Indeed, they are constantly telling us, turn off the lights, turn up your cooling in the summer so your house is warmer. Don't run your appliances until 9 or 10 p.m. or way early in the morning. These are all nice steps we can take, but we have been put in this place because of lack of planning because of too much regulation on being able to generate more power.

This all has its roots in what the Biden administration policy is by getting rid of the dams or making it so difficult through the FERC relicensing process. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission adds all these pieces that have nothing to do with generating power, making sure it is safe to do so. They have to deed away a piece of property for some environmental purpose or send kids to camp or something like that that has nothing to do with generating power. All it does is make your power more scarce or more expensive.

But we are going to learn all these things, aren't we? As the government takes away power, takes away the ability to make power, the prices go up, and we have more blackouts. For crying out loud, because of our forestry policy or lack of, we can't trim the trees around the power lines like we need to in order to ensure the power can stay on all the time.

What we have in California now is these so-called public safety power shutoffs if the wind blows because a tree branch might blow into a power

line and cause an outage, which makes a great big fire; such as the Dixie fire we had last year in northern California, right under a million acres because a healthy looking tree fell into a power line. Now, they love to blame utilities on that, but really forest policy plays a major role in these blackouts and these fires.

We have to do much more because if we want to have an energy policy, we want to have electricity that comes from somewhere, then we have to have the ability to transmit it safely, and not just shut it off like some Third World country because the wind blows. I mean, it is ridiculous.

We need a petroleum policy in this country that continues to supply what we have and make our system, our supply chain work. It isn't working very well right now, because in my home State, \$5.50 gasoline is common, \$6 diesel is common. It wasn't that way just 1½ years ago, and it doesn't have to be that way. Sound policy will deliver us from these high prices.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MRVAN) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, evening, morning, and noon Your people in Ukraine cry out in distress. Hear their voices from the wreckage of their homes and cities. Give heed to those ravaged by war's destruction. Listen for them from the pits of their hiding places.

Rescue them from the battle waged around and against them. Attend to the children who have lost their parents and tremble in fear. Comfort the men and women who grieve the death of their loved ones and are anxious in their forced separation from their families. Uphold the country's leaders and all who battle relentlessly in defense of their homeland and who defend their country's future against all who dare to oppose its sovereignty and seek to destroy its peace.

Eternal God, You have reigned forever and ever, bring Your justice to bear against the wicked. Answer the cries of the oppressed. Sustain those who cast their desperate cares before You. Let not the righteous be shaken.

Let all who call to You this day trust in You and find hope in Your salvation.

In Your matchless name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMALFA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED), the whole number of the House is 429.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WESTERN NEW YORK NATIONAL CEMETERY

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, for years, western New York has been home to one of the largest veteran populations in the United States.

Our community fought for an official solemn resting place for veterans and their families close to home. In 2017, construction began on the Western New York National Cemetery. Early on, there were warnings that the gateway to the cemetery posed traffic hazards. Since then, automobile accidents have occurred, some ending in tragedy.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs released a report suggesting ways that safety could be improved at the cemetery's entrance, where, right now, oncoming traffic often exceeds 60 miles per hour.

We are calling on the VA to listen to the voices of the community and to respond swiftly with a solution. Action is necessary to protect the grieving families of fallen western New York heroes.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the men and women in the nursing profession today.

This week is National Nurses Week. Every year from May 6 through May 12 we celebrate the work and contribution nurses make in the healthcare field. National Nurses Week ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday, the founder of modern-day nursing.

Prior to serving Congress, I spent nearly three decades in the healthcare profession. There I worked closely with nurses and saw firsthand the care and the compassion that they showed their patients.

Nursing is a science and an art, reserved for those who are the most caring, giving, and passionate about helping others. Nurses help their patients and families with comfort, compassion, guidance, and care.

Mr. Speaker, we should always thank our nurses for their hard work and dedication. Please join me in recognizing the nursing community this week. We should be grateful for their commitment to caring for others, especially during these trying times.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. RUIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Nation's law enforcement officers and to recognize their sacrifices.

Today marks the first day of National Police Week, and our fallen heroes and their families are weighing heavily on my mind.

Six years ago in my district, Palm Springs Police Department Officers Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega were tragically shot and killed in the line of duty. In their memories, I authored the Heroes Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega First Responders Survivors Support Act to ensure that their families receive the financial support they need.

Last fall, when the Protecting America's First Responders Act became law, we took a momentous step toward fulfilling this mission. With portions of my bill included, we fixed bureaucratic loopholes in the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program that cost families up to tens of thousands of dollars.

Now, we must build on this success and pass my bill in its entirety to fully honor our fallen heroes. This police week, I urge my colleagues to follow words with action and follow praise with pragmatic solutions that will improve the lives of fallen first responders' families.

HISTORY OF THE SHENANDOAH CAVERNS

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, Virginia's Sixth District is home to some of the most beautiful landscapes and natural wonders in the country.

One of the most breathtaking attractions western Virginia has to offer, Shenandoah Caverns, is just a short 2-hour drive down I-81 from our Nation's Capital.

While building the Southern Railroad through Shenandoah County in the 1800s, the rail company asked landowner, Abraham Neff, for permission to dig a rock quarry for stones to help continue the project. While exploring the quarry, Mr. Neff's sons discovered the caverns after climbing 275 feet down an opening that had been exposed.

The family eventually sold the property to Hunter Chapman, who hoped to show the world the marvel that had been uncovered. In 1922, Chapman got his wish when Shenandoah Caverns officially opened, attracting generations of locals and tourists alike.

Since then, for the past 100 years, the caverns have provided stunning views, incredible geology, and extraordinary crystalline formations to all who visited. Shenandoah Caverns is truly remarkable, and I congratulate its current owner, Kathy Hargrove Kelly, on the business' centennial.

JOBS REPORT

(Mr. LIEU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, another terrific jobs report came out last week, showing that over 428,000 jobs were created in April.

Since President Biden took office, over 8.3 million jobs were created, the most in U.S. history. This was partly a result of the American Rescue Plan passed by Democrats. President Biden and Democrats are working for a better America for the people.

What are MAGA Republicans working on? Government-mandated pregnancy. Extreme MAGA Republicans want to ban abortion nationwide. There is a clear difference between Democrats and MAGA Republicans.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SMALL BUSINESSES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, last week we celebrated National Small Business Week and recognized the great contributions of small business owners and their employees in our towns.

Small business owners create local jobs and drive U.S. innovation. A 2019 report from the Small Business Administration shows that small businesses account for 44 percent of all activity in